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SECRET

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* SUMMARY FOR: DIR-473760CO792 PRINT DATE: 16 JUL 92 *
* INDEX: A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR *

/ / SECRET FRP:

STAFF

CONF: CE/EE/H-5 INFO: C/ORMS, CEDORECORD, LIMITO, MDSX, ODPD, FILE,
C/CIC, CE/EE-3, CED/CIC-2, DC/CIC, DDO-2 (15/P)

92 8794967 ASO PAGE 001
TOT: 010018Z JUL 92 DIRECTOR 473760

SECRET
STAFF
TO: IMMEDIATE [] 010018Z DIRECTOR 473760

FROM: LIMIT CE/EE/H INFO CE/EE, DC/CIC, CED/CIC

SLUGS: WNINTEL ZUHORN

SUBJECT: A MEDAL FROM THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT FOR THE FORMER
CHIEF SPY

REF: [] 39999 (92 8789208)

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUESTED: FOLLOWING (BETWEEN TEAR LINES) IS FOR
THE AMBASSADOR ON A READ AND BURN BASIS.

-----TEAR LINE-----

A. JAMES GOODRICH MCCARGAR, BORN 20 APRIL 1920 IN SAN
FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, RECEIVED A B.A. FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN
1941. HE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AS OF 7 JANUARY
1942 AND SERVED IN VLADIVOSTOK, MOSCOW AND CIUDAD TRUJILLO DURING THE
WAR UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1944. HE WAS ON FURLOUGH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF
STATE FOR MILITARY SERVICE UNTIL FEBRUARY 1946. POSTWAR POSTS
INCLUDED BUDAPEST (APRIL 1946-DECEMBER 1947 AS SECOND SECRETARY/CHIEF
OF POLITICAL SECTION OF THE U.S. LEGATION), GENOA, PARIS AND
WASHINGTON DURING THE PERIOD 1946-1950. HE RESIGNED FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN 1952.

B. MR. MCCARGAR WROTE A BOOK IN 1963 CRITICAL OF THIS AGENCY
ENTITLED A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR UNDER THE PEN NAME OF
CHRISTOPHER FELIX. THE AGENCY DECLINED TO ASSIST MR. MCCARGAR IN
AUGUST 1965 IN THE WRITING OF AN AUTHORITATIVE STUDY OF THE HUNGARIAN
REVOLUTION WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN 1966.

-----END TEAR LINE-----

2. JAMES GOODRICH MCCARGAR (JGM) IS BEARER OF A 7 VOLUME FILE
ON MICROFICHE. FOLLOWING IS VERY BRIEF SYNOPSIS.

A. FROM JULY 1946 TO DECEMBER 1947, WHILE CHIEF OF THE
POLITICAL SECTION OF THE US LEGATION AT BUDAPEST, JGM WAS ALSO THE
POND OFFICER THERE. POND IS THE CODE NAME FOR A SECRET OPERATION
CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH STATE AND WAR DEPARTMENTS. 1 FSO IN EACH
MISSION PROVIDED WITH SECRET FUNDS AND DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS TO AND
FROM SECRET OFFICE IN STATE DEPARTMENT.

B. UNDER POND AUTHORITY JGM SAVED LIVES OF 60 TO 70 PERSONS IN
DANGER OF ARREST AND/OR DEATH IN SOVIET OCCUPATION -- 5 OF WHOM, ON
DIRECT ORDERS, HE PERSONALLY TOOK THROUGH RUSSIAN LINES TO VIENNA AT
GREAT RISK.

C. AFTER LEAVING BUDAPEST, JGM RECEIVED POND MESSAGE
"CONGRATULATIONS ON TREMENDOUS JOB. ASSURE YOU OUTSTANDING
COMMENDATION WILL BE PLACED IN YOUR FOREIGN SERVICE RECORD..." THIS
WAS DONE IN 1948, BUT, AS JGM ONLY LEARNED IN 1977, IT WAS "WITHHELD
FROM HIS PERSONNEL FILE." (DESPITE 2 PRIVACY ACT REQUESTS, JGM STILL
HAS NEVER SEEN IT.) A 1949 LETTER FROM JGM'S BUDAPEST CHIEF, SELDEN
CHAPIN, REQUESTING RECOGNITION OF JGM'S WORK, WAS REBUFFED BY FP ON
GROUNDS IT SHOULD BE RECOMMENDED BY THOSE WHO AUTHORIZED JGM'S WORK.

D. FROM 1948-1950 JGM WAS DETAILED TO OPC (OSTENSIBLY IN CIA,
ACTUALLY WORKED UNDER AUTHORITY OF NSC AND POLICY DIRECTION AT
STATE), AS CHIEF, DIVISION OF SOUTHEASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. FURTHER
COMMENDATIONS... WHEN STATE REFUSED TO ALLOW JGM TO SERVE AS OPS
CHIEF OF STATION, VIENNA, ON GROUNDS IMPROPER WORK ABROAD FOR CAREER
FSOS, JGM CHOSE TO RETURN TO REGULAR FOREIGN SERVICE DUTY.

E. AS OFFICIAL RECORD JGM'S SECRET WORK 1946-1947 SUPPRESSED,
HE WAS NOT PROMOTED AFTER JUNE 1947, DESPITE PUBLIC CRISES WITH

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE: METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

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Continuation page for DIR-473760C0792

SOVIETS. AS MEMBERS OF STATE DEPT SELECTION BOARDS DID NOT HAVE APPROPRIATE SECURITY CLEARANCES, HIS BOARDS WERE NOT INFORMED, DESPITE THEIR QUERIES, OF NATURE OF HIS WORK 1946-1950. RESULT: WHEN IN CONFLICT WITH SUPERIOR, PARIS EMBASSY, 1951-1952, JGM WAS GRADED AMONG LOWEST 10 PERCENT. ON ADVICE FP JGM RESIGNED IN 1953.

F. JMG'S BOOK "A SHORT COURSE IN THE SECRET WAR," WRITTEN AS A NOVEL/SPY THRILLER, BEARS STRONG RESEMBLANCE TO THE POND OPERATION IN HUNGARY.

3. FILE: [] ALL NAMES. DECL OADR DRV
HUM 4-82. >
REL: C/CE/EE/H. CL BY [] AUTH: C/CE/EE/H
END OF MESSAGE

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